

Scandinavian Centre News

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—EIGHT PAGES

Welcome Delegates

THE SEVENTEENTH OF MAY ADDRESS

S. A. SORENSEN

Sons of Norway and friends of Sons of Norway, I feel it a deep honor to one again give the 17th of May address, and on behalf of Solgylt Lodge to wish you "Lykke Med Dagen".

Personally, the word Norway stirs something within me deeper than mere geography. The suffering and sacrifice of our forefathers for freedom flashes into my mind with every mention of the word Norway.

Through all the ups and downs — rise and fall — and — rise again — in Norwegian history; there is a line through it all — dim at times — but always there — the line — of democracy and the love of freedom.

1. The Period of Small Kingdoms before 872

We can imagine each beautiful valley and each majestic fjord being ruled by a small king or earl. The people had open-air parliaments. The people met on a hill, and if there wasn't a hill, they threw up a mound. New laws had to be read from the top of the hill before they became law. No man was legally king; until he had presented himself before these parliaments, and had been accepted as a ruler.

Early therefore, the valleys and fjords developed an independent people, while the sea developed a love of freedom.

2. A United Norway 872-1381

With the rugged mountains and fjords having developed many small independent communities, it was not an easy task to unite them into one Norway. This tremendous task was accomplished by Harold, the fair-haired, who therefore became Norway's first king in 872.

The lesser kings resented the rule of Harold, and many took to the sea. This ushered in the Viking Age — the age of Norwegian exploration and colonization — of such new lands as Iceland, Greenland, The Faroe Islands, the Hebrides, the Orkneys, Dublin, and the Isle of Man.

The line of Viking kings came to an end with the death of Haakon VI in 1381.

3. The Danish Period 1381-1814

Haakon VI's wife Margretha was Danish. She moved back to Denmark and ruled the two kingdoms; and by clever manipulations she had a Danish prince elected king of both countries. In 1388 she also managed to get herself elected Queen of Sweden.

During this period, Norwegian national life fell to its lowest ebb. The Norwegians did not have another Harold to unite them in action to secede from the union.

The People fought stubbornly and successfully on encroachments on their personal freedom. Everywhere else in Europe — feudalism — had taken over. The peasants were serfs i.e. slaves of some feudal Lord of a Manor; not so in

Norway, the Norwegian farmer or Bondeman remained a free man with ownership of his own piece of ground.

Their aim, as must be our aim for a better society is to have security with freedom, security alone is not enough.

4. The Swedish Period 1814-1905

The French Revolution was basically a protest by the common man against economic slavery. It aroused men all over Europe and in America to fight for their freedom. It gave new hope to the common man. It was this spirit that the men of Eidsvold gathered to draft the Constitution of 1814 — the set of rules by which men could live and govern themselves. It was the most liberal Constitution of Europe at that time.

The Constitution could be likened to a Coin. On one side was inscribed the rights and privileges of free-men, on the other side—the responsibilities. Both sides of the coin were so genuinely and deeply cut, that it has lasted to the present time with very little change.

The fruits of the French Revolution were somewhat marred by the ambitions of Napoleon and the Napoleonic Wars; which ended in the Battle of Waterloo.

Denmark had taken the side of Napoleon, while Sweden had opposed Napoleon. As a reward, Norway was ceded to Sweden. During this period the Swedish king respected Norway's Constitution as laid down in 1814.

5. A United Norway 1905-1940

On June 7, 1905, Norway severed its union with Sweden; she invited Prince Carl of Denmark to become Haakon VII of Norway, thus continuing the line of Viking kings, the last of which was Haakon VI.

At this time, I want to draw attention to the fact that June 7 was really Independence Day, and 1905 independence year for Norway. It was the same year as our own province of Alberta was born (September 7, 1905).

6. German Occupation 1940-1945

History has recorded the freedom fighters of Norway — when Norwegians went underground to fight for their flag and their freedom. The Movie "Heroes of Telemarken", tells one episode in this struggle. Here the underground was able to destroy the heavy water plant at Rukan.

The Germans might well have been the first to wage nuclear warfare and thus remain in control of Norway, perhaps Europe, perhaps the world.

7. A Free Norway 1945-1966

On June 7, 1945 on the 40th anniversary, Haakon VII returned to Norway as King. Norway was once again free. Once again the Norwegian flag went up everywhere. There was much rejoicing. Once more the fight for freedom had won out.

Medicine Hat Hosts Bowling Tournament

At the District bowling tournament held in Medicine Hat on April 23 when the Vasa Lodge Lindholm No. 670 of that city played host, four teams took part from Edmonton, three from Calgary, two from Lethbridge, one from Buford and one from Medicine Hat.

The trophy was won by Lethbridge with the Swedes of Edmonton taking second place with 9 pins short. The consolation went to the five good sports from Buford. This team does not have local bowling facilities.

Refreshments, banquet and dance was held at the Four Seasons Club. Presentation of trophies was made. During the evening a number of the out-of-towners happened on a bus tour of Medicine Hat which was greatly enjoyed. One of them was thoroughly convinced that a chartered bus was the best means of travel. Also to add to the evening's fun, the party was joined by three disk jockeys from North Battleford, one of whom is now residing in Medicine Hat.

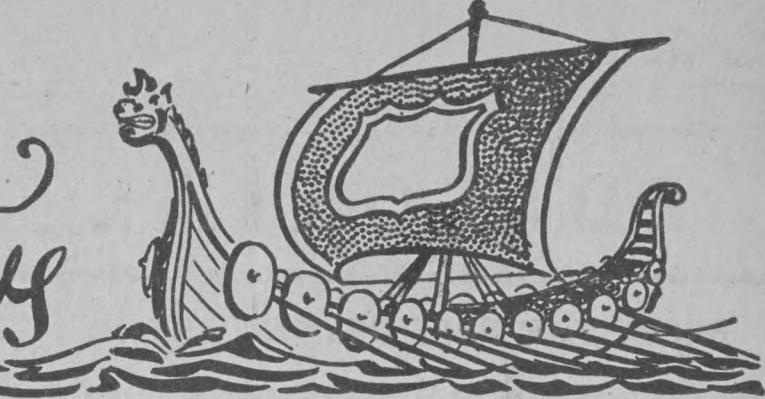
It was a very enjoyable week-end and a hearty thanks goes to the Lodge members in Medicine Hat and its committee in charge of arrangements. It was all very convenient as the accommodation was at Park Lane Motel, bowling at Park Lane alley and the banquet just across the highway. An equally successful tournament is looked forward to for next year — and it just may be that Edmonton will play host.

If we are going to learn anything from the pages of history, surely it is that freedom is something that must be fought for; must be improved, must be preserved. This is not done without the efforts of valiant men.

The fight for freedom goes on today. We must do our part in this struggle or we lose our freedom. Norway today has much security, but the younger generation are saying, "Are we paying too big a price for security?" The recent change in government in Norway reflects this thinking.

I want you to be proud with me of Norway's traditional love of freedom and independence and finally lets resolve to leave the world a better place to live when we leave than what it was when we came. Let's all be freedom-fighters, as were the Men of Eidsvold.

I ask you to rise with me in a toast to The men of Eidsvold on the 17th of May.



Seated left to right: Mrs. Sig Sorenson, Mrs. Donald MacDonald, Mr. Ed Ness, Mrs. Knut Sivertson, Mrs. Alvin Searl. Back row, left to right: Mr. Peter Hansen, Mr. Knut Svidal, Mr. Ellsworth Halberg, Mr. Cliff Johnson, Mr. Joe Lineham.

Sons of Norway Lodge Holds 4th District Convention

Convention Committee Members:

Edward Ness: Committee Chairman, and Publicity; Knut Svidal—Souvenir Program; Ellsworth Halberg — Housing; Mrs. Ella Searl — Registration; Joe Lineham — Entertainment; Mrs. Ragne Sivertson — Banquet and Luncheon; Mrs. Mina McDonald — Reception and Hospitality; Peter Hansen — Transportation and Sports Activities; Cliff Johnson — Finance; Mrs. Selma Sorenson — Secretary, Decorating and Seating.

The 4th District Convention of the Sons of Norway Lodge to be held in Edmonton from June 9th to June 11th, 1966, is to be based on "Our Heritage." Arrangements have been made for ten Junior Chamber of Commerce scooters to meet and escort our convention delegates to the convention hotel which is to be the Bonaventure Motor Hotel.

The entire Convention including all business sessions will be held at the Scandinavian Centre. Registration of delegates is to begin on Thursday, June 9th, at 7 p.m. A Get Acquainted Party and Social will be held in the Nordic Room at 8:30 p.m. on June 9th.

Beginning at 7:30 a.m., June 10th, there will be an Eye Opener Breakfast at the Bonaventure Motor Hotel by way of courtesy of the City of Edmonton. Mayor Vince Dantzer and Honorable L. C. Halmrast will give the welcome, and response made by Mr. J. Runsvold, President of the 4th District.

Registration will again take place at the Centre at 9:00 a.m. The first business session will be into progress at 9:45 a.m. with the formal opening of the District Lodge made by J. D. Runsvold, President of the 4th District. Presentation of the flags will be made by the Solgylt Lodge Drill Team followed by the National Anthems.

A tour of the City of Edmonton will take place from 11:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. with lunch at Molson's

House and Museum, courtesy of Molson's Brewery.

The second business session will go into progress at 2:00 p.m. with a short coffee break at 3:15 courtesy of Valhalla Lodge, Calgary, the session to end at 5:30 p.m.

A large and exciting Klondike Party and Dance will be held at 8:30 p.m. in the Viking Room with Mr. Joe Lineham in charge of the entertainment. There will be a Klondike Review arranged by Crystal MacDonald Fleuty, gambling, a quarter of a million to be given away, dancing girls, and the shooting of Dan McGrew. Everyone will be welcome and please come dressed fit for the occasion. A Klondike Breakfast will follow at 12:30 a.m.

On Saturday, June 11th, a business session will again begin at 8:30 a.m. At 10:00 a.m. there will be the initiation of candidates into the Solgylt Lodge conducted by Mr. Arne Tveten, Supreme President, assisted by the Drill Team of Solgylt Lodge of Edmonton. A short coffee break will take place at 10:30 a.m., courtesy of Hamar Lodge, Clarendon, Alberta. The business session will adjourn at 12:00 for lunch and shopping tour.

Business will again take place at 2:00 p.m. with a coffee break at 3:15 p.m., courtesy of Sunray Junior Lodge, Edmonton, with Junior Folk Dancers under the direction of Clara Lineham to entertain.

The Convention Banquet will be held at 6:30 p.m. in the Viking Room tendered by the Government of Alberta. There will be several guests in attendance from the Government of Alberta and the City of Edmonton, as well as many from the United States. The Toastmaster will be Mr. J. D. Runsvold. A social hour will be held from 8:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. followed by the Installation of Officers for the 4th District. A dance for the delegates will take place at 9:00 p.m., music by Carl Elgstrand, to bring the Convention to a close for 1966.

EDITORIAL

FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK . . .

APRIL 28, 1966 — CANADA'S FIRST BOEING 727 JETLINER

Four representatives of the Scandinavian Centre were guests of Max Ward and Wardair Canada Ltd. on this historic day for their company. They witnessed the christening of the Cy Becker by Mrs. Lucy Becker and later were favored with a quick trip to Calgary and back. We can assure you it is just like sitting in your living room and twenty minutes saw us to Calgary. Those who have signed on our two Charters to Copenhagen will have a real treat in store.

Mr. Ward has accomplished a great deal in a very short time, and for a man in his early forties he has advanced from one of the North's bush pilots to the proud owner of a shiny new jet. We at the 'Centre' extend our best wishes for continued success to Max Ward and all his associates. He is a real credit to himself and to his country.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEET MAY 10, 1966 . . .

- 37 share applications passed.
- Mrs. Chris Pearson will be accepting bookings and generally promoting business for the Centre during the Manager's vacation.
- The sectional stage has been completed and is now ready for use.
- The fifteenth Board Member will be named after the first meeting of the Cultural Activities Department.
- Jack Unwin has volunteered to conduct Sunday programming at the Centre which would act as a search for talent for the Annual Scandinavian Day or Scandapades '67.

JUNE 9, 10, 11, 1966 . . .

These days have been set aside at the Scandinavian Centre for the 32nd Fourth District Biennial Convention of the Sons of Norway. We are pleased that this group has chosen our building for their discussions and deliberations. I am sure that members of Solglyt Lodge No. 143 will be proud to show our Centre to visitors from North Dakota, Montana and various parts of Alberta. We hope all delegates and visitors will have a very enjoyable three days in Edmonton.

HAVE YOU FORGOTTEN? . . .

Last month, Walter Larsen, Director in charge of building a NEW Klondike Booth requested assistance. He has told me that only two persons have contacted him. We know that you are busy, everyone is, but possibly you could decide that this is the year that you are going to give a few hours to this activity. It is much easier if you phone this Director rather than he spend several evenings trying to line up his help.

Several members have contributed a dollar or more for the Scandinavian News. If you enjoy this paper and plan to send along your contribution maybe you should do this right now before you forget.

JUNE WEDDING BELLS . . .

Under the credits column on the right hand side you will find a listing of Secretary and Photographer for the Scandinavian News. During the month of June this name will change as Miss Verna Kvarnberg and Mr. Lionel Larson plan to wed. Verna has always been on the spot with her camera whenever any Scandinavian Centre activity was in progress and it is through her efforts that in years to come there will be an adequate history of our Centre caught on film. Their many friends here and in the surrounding area will wish them both much happiness for the future.

Thank You For Donations To The Paper!

Elof Linden
Lennart Petersson
Don Johnson
John Anderson
Eric Engvold
Eskil Carlson
Victor and Jean Anderson
Henry Lodge
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Anni Kari, Rich Lake
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Olaf Rost
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Frank and Lydia Peak
Harriet Nyland



VASA GLIMPSES

BIRTHS: On April 14th to Roy and Karen Runcer, a son. A third grandchild for Mr. and Mrs. Harold Markstrom.

ENGAGEMENT: Mr. and Mrs. Emil Kvarnberg of Buford announce the engagement of their only daughter Verna Kvarnberg to Mr. Lionel Larson of Edmonton.

Miss Fay Johnson was hostess at a miscellaneous shower on May 9th at the home of her parents Mr. and Mrs. Gust Johnson; in honor of Miss Pauline Johnson, a bride of the near future.

Margaret Eliasson and her son Glen attended the District executive meeting at the home of J. Holmlund of Falun, Alberta.

Roy Ekman made a trip to Vancouver to be with his father who was seriously ill.

Members of Lodge Skandia who are going on the May 20th flight to Oslo are Ottar Sund, Eric and Hansene Pierre and Mr. and Mrs. Olaf Tweter. Also Mrs. Anna Wold of Buford Lodge. We extend to them a very happy holiday.

Mr. and Mrs. Lennart Petersson have as their guests Lennart's father and mother, Mr. and Mrs. Per Petersson, from Soderkoping and Norrkoping, Sweden. They are spending three weeks, and while in the district will visit High Prairie where Mr. Per Petersson has a brother and sister. They will also travel to the Rocky Mountains.

VASA LADIES BAZAAR — In spite of the bad weather there was a good attendance at the tea and bazaar held at the Hudson's Bay Auditorium on April 26th. Everything was sold out and many enjoyed a hot cup of coffee or tea and dainty lunch. The door prize, a nice set of towels was won by Miss Astrid Carlson. A table mat set in Mexican motif was won by Mrs. McCaugnay, the cosmetic case by Mrs. Svea Erickson and the T.V. table by Mrs. E. Westling.

Regular Meeting Of Vasa Lodge Skandia

Attendance at the regular meeting of Lodge Skandia No. 549 held on May 7th in the Nordic Room, Scandinavian Centre was very good. Magnus Pearson reported Peter Johnson and Oscar Modin had come out of hospital and recovering; Andy Ogren and Leonard Eliasson had been ill but were better, and Gust Lundgren still sick. Milda Backstrom reported that Clara Modin was sick in hospital and Davida Ogren was sick at home.

The Charter was draped and one minute silence was observed in tribute to the late Ida Enger who passed away on April 11th. Four members of the lodge officers stationed behind the altar, performed an impressive memorial rite in her honor.

Initiation ceremony was conducted for seven new members who were admitted to the lodge.

A vote of thanks was extended to all who assisted with the Memorial Service at Augustana Lutheran Church.

Childrens' week at the lake was discussed. It will commence on July 10th. It was agreed that July 1st should be the final date for registering children who would attend. Volunteers to help with this venture were called for.

STRAWBERRY TEA — The Vasa Ladies will sponsor a strawberry tea at Vass Park, Pigeon Lake on July 10th. Mrs. W. McMaster will be the convenor.

CHILDREN'S WEEK — Children's Week will be held at Vasa Park again this year. Gertrude Holmgren will be the leader. Activities will commence on July 10th. Anyone sending children this year are urged to register them NOT LATER than JULY FIRST, as otherwise they will not be accepted. Contact Gertrude Holmgren, Phone 799-5562, Edmonton.

MOTHER'S DAY PROGRAM — The Children's Club honored the mothers with a program held in the Nordic Room on May 8th. There was a very nice concert and the mothers were presented with corsages. Minnie Markstrom convened a lovely lunch. Various prizes were given out for achievements. Mrs. Bert Watson, the children's leader and her assistants Mrs. Alma Samuelson, Mrs. E. Hokanson and Raul Nyroos are commended for the success of this annual event with the children.

Mr. and Mrs. F. O. Simmons and the latter's brother Eric Kvarnberg of Buford motored to the interior of B.C. where they visited Orlie Simmons and family at the Duncan Lake site of the Columbia River Project. They returned home via Kelowna and enjoyed a view of the sunny Okanagan Valley in full blossom. They came back through Radium and Jasper.

Mrs. Margaret Eliasson, assisted by Mrs. Betty Pearson entertained at a shower in honor of Miss Verna Kvarnberg who will be married on June 14th.

Rudi and Sonja Sund entertained a few friends recently in honor of Rudi's father Ottar Sund who went on the Oslo flight on May 20th. This will be Mr. Sund's first trip to his native Norway since coming to Canada 45 years ago. He has two sisters and two brothers to visit. He was presented with a flight bag for his journey.

Vasa Lodge Skandia

Betty Pearson asked for a vote of thanks to all who helped with the Auxiliary tea and bazaar, also to the workers who helped with the Bowlers and Curlers banquet. Both these projects turned out very well.

After the meeting members of the Past Presidents Club served a hearty lunch; and a festival, arranged by the same group, followed. There were many fine Klondike and other attractive costumes in evidence; a variety of games of chance were conducted and there was lively dancing. A good crowd attended and a gay time was had. It is suggested that the "Festival" be made an annual event of the spring season.

The next meeting will be held at Vasa Park on July 4th commencing at 8 p.m.

VASA LADIES AUXILIARY — Mrs. Victor Anderson entertained the Ladies Auxiliary at her home on April 16th. Much business was attended to and plans were completed for the Tea and Bazaar at the Hudson Bay Auditorium and for the smorgasbord banquet for the Vasa bowlers and curlers which the ladies catered to. Mary Pearson invited the members to her home for the May meeting.

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SCANDINAVIAN SHOPPING

"The world is a book, and he who stays at home reads only one page". These words appear on a smartly designed pewter matchbox that is one of the most popular souvenirs Americans bring home from Scandinavia. There's another lesson to be learned from the matchbox: He who doesn't visit Scandinavia to do some shopping is skipping some of the most exciting parts of the book. Some distinctive items in the "under \$10" category are: In Denmark, silver, ceramics and toys. In Finland, Lapp-slippers, hand-woven textiles and wood carvings, sauna utensils, ceramics and jewelry inspired by the Kalevala, the Finnish epic. In Norway, enameled silver jewelry and pewter. In Sweden, wooden shoes (a growing fad here), reindeer-skin after ski slippers, costume dolls, pewter jewelry with Viking design and the matchbox mentioned above — it's about \$3.00.

Regardless of price, quality and good design mark every item purchased. That is because arts and crafts associations police even the souvenir postcards, and only approved items may carry their symbol or be displayed in the permanent exhibitions of arts and crafts, such as Copenhagen's Den Permanente, Helsinki's Finnish Design Center, the Forum in Oslo and Svensk Form in Stockholm.

Carson Pirie Scott & Co., the largest department store in Chicago, Ill., has awarded the 1966 Carson Scandinavian Design Award to the Norwegian industrial arts and crafts organization PLUS. U.S. Ambassador Miss Margaret Joy Tibbets recently presented the \$1,500 award to director Per Tannum, chairman of the PLUS board, in the presence of Virgil C. Martin, president and general manager of Carson.

THE ICELANDIC HERITAGE IN CANADA

Five years after Canada celebrates the Centennial of Confederation in 1967, Canadians of Icelandic origin will mark a centennial of their own — the hundredth anniversary of the arrival of the first immigrant from Iceland on Canadian soil. In 1872 Sigtryggur Jonasson, who later became a strong force in the Icelandic community, reached southern Ontario as a young man of twenty. The first permanent Icelandic settlement in Canada dates from 1875 when a small colony was established at Gimli on the western shore of Lake Winnipeg.

Several years ago, the Right Honourable Vincent Massey, then Governor General of Canada, paid tribute to these Icelandic pioneers. "Somehow, Gimli and this region catches my imagination", he said. "Here some eighty years ago a small band of settlers arrived from Iceland. The story of their journey here and their early privations which included an epidemic of smallpox that killed over a third of the group, has all the drama and tragedy of those magnificent Icelandic Sagas of a thousand years ago. The ingenuity and resourcefulness of the first settlers in establishing themselves, starting farms, organizing the fishing industry on Lake Winnipeg shows the type of men and women they were."

One of the heroes of the Icelandic Sagas is Leif Ericsson, the first Icelander whose name is linked with Canada. His voyages of discovery from Greenland in about the year 1,000 took him to the east coast of North America. According to recent archaeological finds, these early Icelanders may have attempted to establish a settlement on Newfoundland. In any case, they maintained contact for centuries with Baffin Island and Labrador, thus opening the way to the later discovery of North America by the Portuguese, French, English and other Europeans.

Background In Iceland

The same restless, questing spirit which impelled Leif Ericsson to explore the unknown seas, lay behind the immigration of modern Icelanders. But there were other, more urgently compelling, factors as well. A long series of disasters, including volcanic eruptions and severe epidemics, which caused a heavy loss of human and animal life, had left the country economically exhausted by the middle of the nineteenth century. Years of privation and hardship drove many young people to emigrate. Canada, particularly Manitoba, became the focal point of their settlement abroad.

The greatest period of Icelandic immigration was between 1875 and 1910. Their numbers fell off gradually until 1920, after which only a handful entered Canada each year. The main reason for this decline was the virtual disappearance of the difficult economic conditions in Iceland which led to the early emigration.

Of the 30,623 people of Icelandic origin living in Canada in 1961, almost half (14,547) were in Manitoba. Next came British Columbia with 5,136, Saskatchewan (3,405), Alberta (2,325), Quebec (2,516) and Ontario (2,313). Very small numbers have settled in the Atlantic provinces.

Early Settlement

In 1872, twenty-two immigrants set out from Iceland, bound for North America. The destination of all but one was the United States. The lone young man who had made up his mind to settle in Canada was Sigtryggur Jonasson, already refer-

red to. His knowledge of English helped him become reasonably familiar with conditions in Ontario before the first group of a hundred Icelanders arrived in 1873. They chose a site at Rosseau in the Muskoka area which, however, proved to be unsuitable and did not lead to permanent settlement. Most of the group had scattered within a year, some going to Wisconsin.

Jonasson, as agent for the Ontario government, helped settle a second and larger group of Icelandic immigrants, this time at Kinmount, about a hundred miles northwest of Toronto. Some of the Kinmount group later founded a small colony in Nova Scotia which they called Markland. However, for various reasons, neither the Kinmount nor Markland sites were satisfactory for settlement.

The Icelanders now began to turn their eyes farther afield. In the spring of 1875 Jonasson set out with a number of delegates from the group to investigate possibilities in the Red River valley. A strip along the western shore of Lake Winnipeg was finally decided upon because it offered fish, game and building material, as well as land which appeared suitable for cultivation.

The main group of Icelanders migrating from Ontario to Manitoba left Kinmount on September 25, 1875. Almost exactly one month later on October 21, the weary men, women and children stepped ashore at Willow Point. Flat bottom boats had brought them down the Red River and into Lake Winnipeg. A site for buildings was selected near the wide crescent bay to the north of the Point, about three miles from the landing place. This became the town of Gimli and the whole area was called New Iceland.

The severe smallpox epidemic referred to by Mr. Massey and winter weather, much harsher than was expected, were two of the very trying experiences which the settlers encountered in their first years on the shores of Lake Winnipeg. But they persisted resolutely in their determination to build a prosperous community. Newcomers from Iceland arrived and small settlements were founded north of Gimli at Arnes, Riverton and Hecla Island.

Pioneer life is described with a very vivid touch by one of the original settlers, Magnus G. Guðlaugson. "In the evening the whole family could be found assembled in the big kitchen or living room, as the case might be, all busy at various tasks. This was the same pattern of work and learning as was traditional in Iceland, where all the family and servants sat together in the baostofa and worked, while one person would read some instructive book, such as the classical literature. It was really a very pleasant experience to sit thus together in close companionship and all working for the good of the whole group. Often the children were shelling beans or busy husking corn; they might be making nets or teasing wool, while the older people carded and spun the wool — the men did the carding while the women sat spinning."

Organization Of New Iceland

At the time of the first settlement of the Icelanders, Manitoba was a much smaller province than it is today. In fact, New Iceland was actually situated just north of the old Manitoba boundary. For the first months of its existence, the Icelandic colony was a part of the Northwest Territories. Then it was included in the District of Keewatin

when that territorial unit was formed in 1876.

The Lieutenant-Governor of Manitoba was given authority in Keewatin, but the establishment of a council and machinery of government were delayed for some time and the Icelandic colonists were virtually on their own as far as government was concerned.

Consequently, they formed their own administrative unit. The area was divided into four districts: Willow Point, Arnes, Riverton and Hecla Island. Each district set up a council, and the four district council presidents formed a body called the thingrad, which became a de facto government for the colony. Gimli functioned as the capital. A constitution was drafted and, by mid-January of 1878, the "republic" of New Iceland came into being, unique in the settlement history of Canada. Its near autonomy was respected until 1887, when Manitoba assumed full administrative authority over New Iceland.

Expansion Of Settlement

New Iceland was destined to become the mother of Icelandic settlement in Canada and the United States. Its function as a temporary host for Icelandic immigrants, who eventually found homes elsewhere, gave it a particular significance. They came to the area because of family or other personal connections with the earlier settlers, or because the name "New Iceland" was a familiar one throughout their homeland. Then they very often moved on to seek new opportunities.

The first exodus from New Iceland came in 1878 when nearly thirty families moved to Pembina county in North Dakota, which was to become the largest Icelandic colony in the United States.

In 1880 a large group formed the Argyle settlement, northwest of Winnipeg, which developed into a very rich wheat-growing area. Another offshoot of the Gimli settlement was the large mixed farming and fishing colony begun in 1886 on the east shore of Lake Manitoba. Other rural settlements in Manitoba were at Selkirk, Swan Lake, Shoal Lake, Brandon, Piney, Arborg and numerous other locations.

The Icelandic population of Winnipeg showed a spectacular rise in the 1880's. The first appearance of Icelanders there was in the fall of 1875 when single persons from the original party bound for Gimli remained behind in search of employment. By 1879 the first Icelandic store was opened on Main Street by Arni Frederickson, who later became an alderman. Eventually the Icelandic population of Winnipeg was to reach over 7,000.

Churchbridge, Saskatchewan was pioneered by Icelanders in 1885. The largest farm colony of Icelanders in Canada is located around Foam Lake, Quill Lake and Fishing Lake in north central Saskatchewan. This area was settled between 1891 and 1909 and became famous for its excellent wheat. Wynyard, Kandahar, Mozart and Elfros are among other districts in Saskatchewan settled by Icelanders.

In Alberta one of the main concentrations of Icelanders is at Markerville. In British Columbia they settled in Vancouver and Victoria as well as along the coast south of Vancouver. There is also a sizable group of Icelanders in the Peace River valley.

Associations and Religious Affiliation

One of the first Icelandic organizations in Canada was the Icelandic Society which was founded in 1877.

Reorganized in 1881 and renamed the Icelandic Progressive Society, its general aim was "to promote as far as possible the progress of the Icelandic people on the continent."

Outstanding among its achievements was its work on behalf of newly-arrived immigrants, most of whom were greatly in need of assistance. They were given sympathetic advice and material aid in becoming established in the city or in proceeding to their destination in other communities.

In the tradition of the Icelandic Society, which had meanwhile ceased to function, was the Icelandic National League, founded in 1919. With a central organization in Winnipeg and chapters in the principal Icelandic communities in Canada and the United States, it is still a flourishing organization today. The aims of the League are the maintenance of the Icelandic cultural heritage, co-operation between the Icelandic people in North America and Iceland, and the promotion of good citizenship.

Another organization, the Icelandic Canadian Club, uses the English language exclusively in its official activities. The Club was founded in 1938 by a group of younger members of the Icelandic community, with emphasis on the Icelandic heritage in the service of Canada. The English-language

quarterly, The Icelandic Canadian, which includes articles on historical and cultural subjects, is perhaps the most ambitious project promoted by the Club.

The Icelanders, of course, formed many more organizations in the course of their long history in Canada. The ones mentioned here are some of the more important ones.

The majority of Icelanders are Lutherans. Their congregations were organized under the Icelandic Lutheran Synod of America in 1885. Over seventy-five years later, in 1962, the final meeting of the Icelandic Synod was held at Gimli. In that year the United Lutheran Church of America merged with other Lutheran synods on the continent to form the Lutheran Church in America, with a membership including people of German, Swedish, Danish, Finnish, Icelandic, English and other origins.

The Unitarian denominations has also attracted a sizable number of Icelanders. The first congregation was formed at Winnipeg in 1891 and in 1903 the Icelandic Unitarian Association was founded. Like the Lutherans, however, they merged into the broader stream when they became part of the Western Canada Unitarian Conference in 1952 and of the Canadian Unitarian Council in 1961.

(to be continued next issue)

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June 9, 10 and 11, 1966
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ICELANDIC NOTES

A hearty welcome home to Mr. Mike Johnson, on his return from three pleasant weeks with friends and relatives in Victoria and Vancouver.

Mr. Otto Johnson, Manager of Perforating Guns of Canada, was a patient in the University Hospital recovering from a heart attack, suffered April 9th. Friends will be pleased to hear he is doing nicely at home.

Mr. E. J. Stevenson from Los Angeles arrived Friday to visit relatives, but landed in the Royal Alex with the flu.

The Society extends sympathy to Mrs. Ingaldson on the recent passing of her father, Oli Arason, Glengoro, Manitoba.

Congratulations to Miss Corrine Arnifinson on her graduation from Grade XII on Friday, May 13th, 1966.

Mrs. Hogan of Aldergrove, B. C. is visiting at the home of her daughter and son-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Al Arnason for a couple of weeks.

Miss Shirley Thorsteinson was installed as Fjallkona, at a ceremony held in the Viking Room of the Scandinavian Centre on Sunday, May 15th, followed by a coffee party.

Out of town visitors were Barney Eyford from Hay River, Mrs. J. Janssen of Red Deer, and Mrs. Hogan of Aldergrove, B.C.

Lori Oddson, eldest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Lerfur Oddson was confirmed Sunday, May 15th, 1966 at the Ascension Lutheran Church.

Mr. and Mrs. D. Persad and son have moved to Guelph, Ontario where he has accepted a position with Dominion Rubber. Mr. Persad is a graduate of the University of Alberta in Chemical Science.

Birthday congratulations on May 12th to Mrs. Gudrun Vegfusson, May 29th to Mrs. Matilda Johnson and to Mrs. Ingeborj Alderdice who celebrates her birthday in June.

Please remember our annual Picnic — on June 19th — at Victoria Park — Area No. 6. Try to attend as we do have fun.

Congratulations to Bert Lane who was awarded a trophy at the annual barber banquet of the Alberta Barber Benefit Association, for "Most Dedicated Barber of the Year". This is an award given to the barber who has over a period of years contributed most of his time and efforts to improve the barbershop trade. Bert is the Secretary of the Edmonton Branch.

A team of which Bert and Pat are members took first place in the provincial Barbers Curling Bonspiel.

Mrs. Lil Ledger joined the elite 400 club by rolling a 405 at Scona Bowling Lanes, other awards she received were the Seven-Up Award, Bowler of the Week trophy from Scona Lanes, Bowler of the Month from E. B. A. and the proprietors award, also high average trophy from the league. These are a nice addition to the trophies Lil has in her display. Congratulations, Lil.

Congratulations to Ernie Ledger who came out on top in a Canada Wide Competition for display arrangements with his company. The prize was a polaroid land camera.

Anybody Going To Denmark Soon?

This is the last minute information about going to Denmark and we wish you all a very good holiday in Denmark, Sweden, Norway, Finland or where ever you may be going for your holiday this year.

About 100 years ago a Danish national song was written and some of the words went like this: Few have too much, and fewer too little.

Nowadays, this doesn't quite apply because there is none who has

too much — not after taxes have been paid. There are a great many who have too little when the tax-collector sends out his inevitable bills. There is still some truth in that song, nevertheless. Judged by an international yardstick, there are no really rich people in Denmark, yet, at the same time there are none who need to be hungry. Differences in this respect are considerably less than in most other countries on earth. It cannot be denied that ministers of state, eminent scientists, and important artists all look with the deepest envy at the incomes of quite young bakers, hotel door-men, proprietors of ice-cream stands, and market workers — not to speak of the plutocratic cooks and the well-trained housemaids.

Once in a great while someone in Denmark strays into wealth but it is seldom. For the most part it depends on winning in lotteries, or putting bets on the horses or football games. Or else it happens because a distant uncle in Canada trotted off to the Great Beyond without leaving any children behind him, or because of a kind foreign friend who has sent a gift parcel.

However, this creates a proportionate equality which produces a sound form of democracy in which all can talk together on a common footing and where everyone can allow himself to be sick without going bankrupt over it. (An appendicitis operation in a first class hospital costs the patients about Kr. 20.00 including operation, doctors fees, medicine, care, and a bed). And Danes can allow themselves to be old, as well. The state sees to it that the aged are not without a roof over their heads and food in their mouths.

There are two kinds of Danish coins. One is called ore. Practically speaking, it is without any interest except for collectors. The other is called krone and consists of 100 ore. For a krone one can buy a nice Danish sandwich, a tin soldier, a piece of soap, a hair-ribbon, a couple of quarts of milk, two loaves of bread, a nice cigar, about 4 cigarettes, a walnut or a piece of chocolate.

For 50,000 kroner, if one is very lucky, one can buy a little house in the country or some stocks which are worth less. Most other things lie somewhere between these two amounts. To name some examples: a drink and a dollar cost the same, around seven kroner including tips. A pound of butter costs about four kroner and a pound of coffee about eight. A fine restaurant will produce an excellent steak for ten kroner and the renowned Danish sandwiches are available from 1.50 kroner a piece. But whatever meal you take — don't forget to ask for Tuborg — the world famous beer.

ABOUT TIPPING

A service charge of 15% is usually added to hotel bills, besides which it is customary to tip the hotel porter and the boots. Restaurant waiters are tipped at a rate from 12½% - 15%. Taxidrivers should be given 10% - 15% of the fare. Theatre cloakroom fees are usually included in the cost of the ticket. In restaurant cloakrooms, a minimum of 50 ore is charged per person.

Conducted Round Trips of the Harbour and Canals take place from May 1st to October 1st and leave from G1. Strand near the statue of the "Fishwife" and from Kgs. Nytorv near the "Memorial Anchor". There are also regular boat trips between G1. Strand and Langelinie "The Little Mermaid" and between Kgs. Nytorv and Christianshavn. Copenhagen can boast of an excellent taxi-cab service and many of the drivers speak one or more foreign languages. The fare is clearly shown on the meter and the driver expects a tip of 10% - 15%.

Canadian Embassy — 2 Prinsesse Maries Alle Copenhagen.

Carole Joyce Arason Weds D. D. Ross

A lovely wedding was solemnized on Thursday, April 28th, 1966 at 4 p.m. at the Grace United Church when Carole Joyce eldest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Walter Arason exchanged marriage vows and wedding rings with Donald Dwayne Ross, son of Mr. and Mrs. L. Ross of Edmonton.

Reverend Donald Brown performed the ceremony. Soloist Mrs. W. Wallbank sang the Wedding Prayer preceding the ceremony and the Lord's Prayer during the signing of the register.

The bride given in marriage by her father, looked lovely in a floor length gown of white french organza, the bodice featured a scooped neckline, and the empire waistline was outlined with lace appliques. Her A-line gown was complimented by a train flowing from the shoulder, organza roses and lily-of-the-valley held her four tiered chapel veil of silk illusion and she carried Sweetheart roses.

Miss Glenda Ross, sister of the groom was bridesmaid, she wore a fitted floor length gown of azure blue. Her head-dress was of blue sunburst with short matching veil; she carried pink carnations.

The groom was attended by Mr. Donald Arason, brother of the bride. Guests were ushered by Mr. Vern

Ross, brother of the groom and Wayne Wodson, friend of the bride and groom.

The mother of the bride, chose

a blue lace dress and matching lace coat, white accessories and wore a corsage of yellow roses.

The mother of the groom, wore a white crepe suit with blue accessories and wore a corsage of red roses.

A reception and dance followed at the Scandinavian Centre. Mr. Gunnar Thorvaldson acted as Master of Ceremonies. A toast to the bride was proposed by Mr. Gerald Arason, uncle of the bride, to which the groom admirably responded.

Mr. L. Stevens, friend of the groom's family, spoke on behalf of the groom.

The young couple left the following day, to take up residence in Ottawa. For travelling the bride wore a blue suit, white accessories and had a corsage of pink carnations.

Out-of-town guests attending the wedding were: Mr. and Mrs. Gerald Arason, Uncle and Aunt of the bride, Miss Pam Arason, cousin of the bride all from International Falls, Minnesota, U.S.A. Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Jewell, cousin of the groom from Mount Vernon, Washington and Mrs. Al Johnson, cousin of the groom from Castlegar, B.C.

FINNISH SOCIETY



FINNISH FOOTNOTES

Recent visitors to the city from Rich Lake, Alberta were Mr. and Mrs. Ray Kumpula and Ted and Gordon Kumpula also Mr. and Mrs. John Ritala.

Janice Koivuneva spent her Easter holidays with her grandparents at Rich Lake.

I wish to express my sincere thanks to J. Rama, B. Rama, J. Koivuneva, E. Plamondon and family and also to my mother Mrs. Carlson who took part in giving me a lovely gift and flower arrangements. Many thanks also to my friends for gifts and cards I received on my birthday April 16th.

Mrs. E. N. Tikkainen
Rich Lake, Alberta.

Best wishes in their new home to Mr. and Mrs. V. Heinonen and family.

"Juhannuskokko" will be held at Lac La Nonne, Willowbend Beach, on June 25th, 1966. Everyone is reminded to keep the date in mind.

Recent visitors in Edmonton were Mr. and Mrs. P. Hahmo and family of Calgary, Alberta.

Speedy recovery to Mrs. Pirkko Karvonen who was in hospital recently.

Mr. Paul Karvonen and Mr. John Sahuri spent a weekend fishing at Pheasant Lake recently. Also fishing there was Mr. T. Aho and son among others.

Miss Gisela Sturmer was the guest of honor at a recent bridal shower party given by Mrs. Anja Leino and Mrs. Rita Salo. Miss

Sturmer received many lovely gifts during the evening and a very tasty luncheon was served by the hostesses. Miss Sturmer's marriage to Mr. Esko Salo will take place on May 21st at Augustana Lutheran Church.

May 7th dance was well attended and everyone seemed to have a good time. Special thanks to Mr. V. Ristola, Mr. R. Vesaniemi and Mr. J. Sahuri who took care of serving the coffee and lunch, many thanks also to everyone who helped.

Mrs. Sirkka Vesaniemi was the guest of honor at the surprise baby shower held on May 11th at the home of Mr. and Mrs. J. Sahuri. Many friends gathered bringing beautiful gifts for the new baby to be.

Birthday greetings to the following members of Finnish Society who all celebrate their birthdays during June; Mrs. I. Kuusela, Mrs. T. Virtanen, Mr. P. Hietikko and Mr. T. Louste.

Next general meeting will be held at the home of Mr. and Mrs. V. Leino, 13555 - 124A Ave., on Tuesday, June 7th at 8:00 p.m. Everyone is cordially invited.

Thanks to all who have paid their memberships for 1966. If you haven't paid yet give Mr. Leino a call at 454-2246.

If you have any news for the paper, please call 489-7515 or write to Mrs. A. Sahuri, 16112 - 104 Avenue.

The Finnish Society wishes every success to the Sons of Norway Convention.

"17 Mai" Celebration

tries.

The 152 Anniversary of Norway's Independence was celebrated by Sons of Norway, Saturday, May 14 at the Scandinavian Centre, with a large crowd in attendance for the Smorgasbord and Dance.

Head table guests were Alderman Dr. A. C. McGuggan, Mr. A. J. Johannessen, Norwegian Consul, and Mrs. Johannessen, Mr. E. Halberg, president of Sons of Norway and Mrs. Halberg, Mr. Helge Ramsing, president of Scandinavian Centre and Mrs. Ramsing, Mr. Joe Lineman, Master of Ceremonies and Mrs. Lineman, Mr. G. Algot and Mrs. R. Currie, Mr. Sig Sorenson and Mrs. Sorenson. Mr. Halberg opened the ceremonies with a message of welcome and proposed a toast to the Queen, Norwegian Consul Mr. A. J. Johannessen gave a brief message in Norwegian and proposed a toast to King Olaf. Dr. McGuggan and Mr. Ramsing also spoke briefly. Mr. Algot was presented with an honorary pin by President Halberg and congratulated on his 81st birthday. The speech in commemoration of the 17 of May was given by Sig Sorenson.

The head table was decorated in traditional style, Norwegian flags and tapers, with the theme carried out on the Smorgasbord table. The flowers were donated by Lydia Naverseth and Ragna Sivertsen. The Smorgasbord consisted of turkey, ham, sill, salmon, meat balls, cold meats, salads, and Norwegian pastries.

The Smorgasbord was prepared by Ragna Sivertsen, Lydia Naverseth, and Maisie Amdam. The dining room tables were set up by Gladys Clark, Lydia Naverseth, Richard Larson and Eric Dinesen. Other ladies who assisted with the work were Ida Paulson, Margrethe Larson, Joan Sivertsen, Arlene Amdam and Ella Searl. Thanks to all who donated salads and pastries.

There were out of town guests from Camrose, Lethbridge and Fort Saskatchewan.



Left to right: Louise Flewwelling, Betty McKevitt, Eric Denisen, Ross Christensen, Johanne Nilsen was missing from the picture.

EIRIK THE RED AND OTHER ICELANDIC SAGAS

Selected and translated with an Introduction by Gwyn Jones. Oxford University Press, 1961.

As Lief Eriksson Day was officially celebrated in the United States for the first time in October 1964, it does not seem inappropriate to include this attractive volume here. It certainly deserves the attention of the inquisitive student of the Icelandic Sagas.

The book contains some excellent translations by Gwyn Jones of eight of the so-called Sagas of Icelanders and one Saga of Times Past (fantastic tale).

From the first category Gwyn Jones has selected two of the very best and most famous shorter Sagas, that of Hrafnkel The Priest of Frey and that of Gunnlaug Wormtongue. The first is a masterly historical novel, the latter a moving tragic-romantic love story.

There is also the short story of Authun the Bear, the best of all Icelandic short stories and, according to Mr. Jones, one of the most flawless short stories ever written.

There is the well-composed rustic and realistic Saga of Hen-Thorir and the district narrative about the Vapnfjord Men, relating a family feud through two generations and, as a tailpiece to it, Thorstein the Staff-struck, a homely and vivid little tale.

The Saga of Eirik The Red is the account of the Icelandic voyagers to Greenland and America, and one of the chief sources of our knowledge of the first European discovery of the New World. Eirik was the first white settler of Greenland, to which he gave its inviting name, and the father of that enterprising Leif, who was five centuries in advance of Columbus in discovering the American continent.

Gwyn Jones has written a concise and vivid introduction to the nine Sagas he has translated so excellently.

New Motor Coach Tour In Sweden

Visitors to Scandinavia are sometimes surprised by the fact that the National Railways in Denmark, Norway and Sweden operate not only trains but also bus lines and boats. This is readily understandable when one considers the varied Scandinavia terrain.

Typical of this situation is the new "ENCHANTING SWEDEN" TOUR introduced this year. This is a 5-day conducted tour by deluxe motorcoach with departures during June, July and August from Stockholm or Malmo. A varied itinerary includes the scenic Chateau Country, the romantic Lake District, the Folklore Country and the famous Glassworks District. There are also visits to interesting centers of modern industry and to renowned arts and crafts exhibitions.

Sons Of Norway Hold Bowling Banquet

Sons of Norway Bowling Banquet was held April 30th at the Nordic Room in the Scandinavian Centre with a good attendance.

The Sons of Norway High Average Trophies were presented to Miss Betty McKevitt for the ladies and Mr. Norman Nilsen for the men. Other awards were presented as follows: Ladies High Triple went to Miss Betty McKevitt, Men's High Triple went to Norman Nilsen.

Ladies' High Single to Miss Betty McKevitt, Men's High Single to Ole Borgersen.

Peter Hansen Trophy for the Champion Team of the year was presented to the Norsemen Team consisting of Johanne Nilsen, Eric Denisen, Louise Flewwelling, Ross Christensen and Betty McKevitt. Second place trophies were presented to the Vikings the team of Dennis Cook, Inger Borgersen, Harry Mjaatveit, Ed Veis and Peter Hansen.

High Team Triple also went to the Vikings.

Special awards were presented to: Elva Veis, Eric Denisen, Andy Mjaatveit, Walter Meyer, Peter Hansen and Bernard Olafson.

To complete the evening everyone gathered at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Henry Logan for a house warming party.

SOLGLYT SPOTLIGHT

Mr. and Mrs. Halvor Johnson spent 10 days during Easter holidaying in Saskatchewan, visiting their son Albert at Wilkie, Henry at Thippen and their daughter Anice at Unity.

Mr. and Mrs. H. Logan had Henry's mother Mrs. B. Thoreson from Viking, Alberta, visiting a week with them recently. She is 89 years of age and very active.

Mrs. Ingrid Lagergren spent a few days in the Royal Alexandra Hospital in May where she took treatments for arthritis.

Mr. K. Lubbers is home from hospital recuperating from his heart attack, still a bit weak but much improved.

Mr. Gus Algut recently spent a much enjoyed holiday visiting old friends at Derwent, Alberta.

Due to the late appearance of the paper each month we extend birthday greetings in this issue to Ruth Hammerstad who will celebrate her 65 birthday on July 4 and Ragna Sivertsen her 56 on July 2.

Mr. Richard Larson recently sold his farm and is now living in the city. Friends will find him home at 10219 - 135A Avenue. Phone 474-7266.

Mr. Eric Dinesen has his house rented out and has moved to the South Side closer to his work. He invites friends to come and visit him at 10015 - 83 Avenue, Ste., 35. Phone 433-1303.

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FOR PARTICULARS TELEPHONE:

"HOMECOMING YEAR" . . .**What Is It?**

By ELSIE SIMMONS

This year "Homecoming year" was planned specially for people of Swedish descent, or Swedish birth residing in other lands. Their number is probably greater than the present population of Sweden today. Sweden selected this year to honor these men and women and to thank them for their achievements and for the friendly relations they have built up between Sweden and other nations, as well as upholding a pride in things Swedish. Sweden and its people are opening their arms to give these folks a hearty "Welcome home" and to show them a wonderful time.

Those who left Sweden at an early age, or whose impressions are built on things told to them by parents or grand-parents are in for some great surprises. Sweden of today is very modern. Yet, it has retained all the traditions and lores of the past. One is never far from some historic site or monument, or museum which shows how life was lived in centuries gone by. While the Swedes have a very keen eye to the future, they hold very dear the experiences and practices which have developed their land to what it is today.

The birth-places of their famous artists, writers and sculptors are kept intact for their present and future generations. They have kept alive old customs like Midsummer festival, Lucia and Christmas. Also the old world pomp and circumstance of the opening of parliament and the changing of the guards.

The best way to get to know Sweden is to go there with an open mind and be friendly. To know Sweden you must know its people and talk to them if possible. Many who visit there this summer will not speak Swedish, but they will find that most places of business have English-speaking attendants and that they are very helpful to newcomers and visitors.

Many who visit Sweden for the first time will have a very small concept of what the country is like. Mostly from hear-say of people they have talked to. But Sweden has many faces. Their land varies as greatly as does our Canada in scenery, industry and climate.

If you think of Skane in the south you will picture quiet villages, farms and orchards on rolling land, flocks of geese and beechwood in the spring. Smaland will be remembered for its rocky ground, pine woods and many tiny lakes. If Dalarne is your home province then you will think of the many lakes and rivers, fresh virgin forests, scattered every few miles the small villages with log houses painted red and the clean white barked birch trees. In Norrland you will conjure up snow peaked mountains, mountain streams abounding in fish, and rich forests, and farther north more mountains and reindeer attended by Laps in colorful garb.

When you visit Sweden, try to see more than your home community. Try and visit some of the main cities. Stockholm, the capital, with its Parliament buildings, Skansen, Nordiska Musium, its many water courses running through the city. And Sigtuna, the capital of earlier days, and Upsalla, the university city. Here are old cathedrals with tombs where the historic figures of the past are buried. There are castles from medieval days, still furnished with the trappings of times when the Royal families of the past lived there.

Unique Ski Race Spotlights Health Sports

The Knight's Race for blind and near-blind skiers was held for the third time at Beitostolen, in the Valdres district of central Norway April 17th. Blind Gunnar Eriksen arrived 20 minutes before the start of the race, after skiing some 800 miles to publicize the event. In connection with this year's race, Lions Clubs throughout Norway sponsored a 4-day Red Feather campaign to raise funds for the projected Valdres Health Sports Center. With contributions still pouring in and one more day to go, contributions amounted to 7,440,000 kroner, more than twice the amount hoped for by the biggest optimists. Meanwhile, nearly 100 physicians from 15 nations were gathered at Beitostolen for a symposium on physical activity and health, with special emphasis on the needs of handicapped persons.

International Medical Symposium
Gunnar Eriksen started his 800-mile trek from Fauske, in North Norway, February 13, and arrived at Beitostolen, just in time to participate in the Knight's Race. The blind skier was accompanied by state sports consultants in each of the four provinces he passed through. En route, Eriksen wore out three pairs of ski boots and three pairs of skis. The purpose of his strenuous venture was to propagate for health sports, especially for the handicapped. Welcomed by sizable crowds all along the route Eriksen sold some 12,000 Knight's Race pins at 3 to 5 kroner each, and

Swedish Scouts Have Distinguished Mother As Guest

Mrs. Joseph Kennedy, mother of the late President John Kennedy, was a guest on invitation from the Swedish Scout Association at their five-day program and horseshoe sale in support of "U-Barnen".

Mrs. Kennedy has a wide interest in Scouting as several of her children have been members, and she has followed the movement in Sweden with enthusiasm. Her visit ended with a luncheon with the King at Drottningholm.

WHO CARES

At the Hudson's Bay Auditorium on Friday, June 17th from 2:00 to 5:00 p.m. members of the Edmonton branch of the Unitarian Service Committee are holding a display of articles made by the volunteers to be shipped to the needy — mostly children — in Asia and Europe.

Tea will be served and there will be a table of home baked goods.

If you have a few spare minutes once in a while, talk to any of the volunteers who will be serving tea, and hear how you can put this time to good use making small items to help the underprivileged children of the world. Wool and simple patterns for knitters and easy instruction for sewn articles are supplied free.

Who cares? is a common enough phrase these days. It would help a lot if there were more to answer "I care".

—Paid Advertisement

See as much of Sweden of the past and present as possible, and you will know that land better, and perhaps get a glimpse of what is to be in the future for the home of your ancestors. Make your Homecoming visit one to enrich your whole life.

received contributions of 30,000 kroner to the projected 5.8 million kroner physical training centre at Beitostolen. On last lap he was joined by his wife and their two children.

More than 200 participated in the Knight's Race which had for its motto: "Learn to See with Your Thoughts". To deaf and blind Halfdan Larsen the 15 miles ski race was a tremendous emotional experience. His companion, sports consultant Alv Kveberg, had to stop from time to time to "describe" the magnificent panorama by means of hand signs. Seven nations had handicapped representatives in this year's race. Among them were two blind Americans, Tom Hanson of Wisconsin, and Cletus Holmes, of Minnesota. The blind and near-blind skiers were accompanied by specially invited guests, including Social Affairs Minister Sigil Aarvik, twelve Members of Parliament, twenty physicians, seamen, and topnotch skiers. Four young Tibetans, now studying in Norway, also took part. Norwegian Broadcasting Corporation sent two television programs from Beitostolen. The Knight's Race and the Red Feather drive were both covered on Norwegian and Nordic radio and T.V.

Health Director Karl Evang and Oslo University professor K. Lange Anderson headed the Norwegian hosts for the Scientific World Seminar on Physical Activity and Health. Participants included 96 noted physicians from 15 different countries. They came from all parts of the world, except Australia.

Blind musician-composer Erling Stordahl, originator and still primus motor of the Knight's Race, also conceived the idea of bringing together leading world authorities within medicine, physiology, and rehabilitation. Prof. Lange Andersen, who is connected with the International Biological Research Program, organized the Beitostolen conference, in co-operation with Health Director Evang. The week-long symposium which was divided into 4 sections, included 23 introductory lectures. These, with main statements made during the discussion, will be published later this year.

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It was too bad so few turned out for our May Dance, we had really expected to see a capacity crowd. This time we had a little entertainment as our president had got hold of the Caribbean Harmonite Steel Orchestra and could they ever play on those Steel drums and then they did the Limbo Dance which we found out is a West Indian Folk Dance.

Again it is June and so we will celebrate Set Hans evening with an old fashion bonfire and hope the weather will permit us to have a real cosy evening with sing songs around the fire. Later we will go down to the DANIA ROOM for a little dancing and a social evening. Take your friends along and enjoy yourselves. You will be able to buy refreshments of all kinds, coffee, hot dogs, soft drinks etc. "BIKUBEN'S" ladies will be in charge of this.

Don't forget the date — Thursday, June 23rd at the Scandinavian Centre — see the Ad in this paper for more information.

Our next "BIKUBE" meeting will be held on Monday, June 20th please come as many as possible to this meeting, the last before summer holidays. The third Monday in the month June 20th at 8:00 p.m. 10029 - 85 Avenue. We are going to start a new project, so please come to hear all about it.

We all take the opportunity to wish all those lucky people that will be going to Copenhagen with WARDAIRS New Jet last of June a very happy holiday and enjoy yourself, there are still a few seats available for the 9th July flight — see the Ad in this paper, then do something about it, you won't regret it.

He was a playful, middle-aged wolf. Seating himself close to a cute little blonde on the bus, he leaned over and asked: "Where have you been all my life?"

She looked at him coolly and replied: "Well, for the first half of it, I wasn't born."

Akureyri Welcomes You!

Akureyri is the biggest town in North Iceland. It is an ancient town with a modern look, a centre of industry, trade and tourism. It is built on a long tongue of land extending into the end of Eyafjordur ("The Fiord of Islands") and lies amid beautiful surroundings between high mountain ranges. It was here that the Clergyman Jon Sveinsson (NONNI), famous author, lived and Akureyri has preserved his memory in a small museum to him.

Here the visitor will find good accommodation and friendly service. Akureyri has comfortable hotels and pleasant restaurants, a golf course, outdoor swimming pool, a sauna, and a famous botanical garden. Lake Myvatn, one of the most beautiful districts of Iceland with its unspoilt nature, peaceful mountains, trout fishing, weird lava formations, waterfalls, hot water and sulphur springs is only 60 miles away.

In summer tourists can enjoy the real Midnight Sun in Akureyri, while in winter they can relax in the new ski hotel at Hlidarfjall with its wonderful views and all modern amenities, including a ski-lift and ski instructors.

Abstainers Have Less Accidents

A Swedish insurance company reported that over a period of five years, total claims of their policy-holders who are total abstainers were 15% lower than those of the general group.

UNLIMITED AIR TRAVEL IN SWEDEN FOR \$99.00

SAS and LIN, the Swedish domestic airline will provide unlimited air transportation within Sweden during Homecoming Year, for permanent residents of U.S.A. and Canada at a special rate of \$99.00. The ticket is good for three months and has to be purchased in North America.

Rev. Thoralf Norheim, a Dominican friar and a distinguished Norwegian pianist of international reputation, is making his fourth concert tour of U.S.A. and Canada to raise funds for the Dominican Order's new Priory in Oslo, Norway.

Thor Heyerdahl, Norwegian explorer of Kon-Tiki fame, believes there are many indications that New Zealand's Maoris originally came from Hawaii. Their ancestral home, the legendary Hawiki, has so far been thought to be Ra'iatea island in the Society Islands.

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SPORTS COLUMN

Vasa Curlers And Bowlers Hold Banquet

The Vasa curlers and bowlers wound up the season of sport with a banquet and dance in the Nordic Room, Scandinavian Centre on May 6th. The Vasa Ladies catered to a very fine smorgasbord dinner serving the traditional Swedish dishes which was enjoyed by a capacity crowd.

The meal over, trophies to winners of the different competitions were given out. Larry Comin acted as Master of ceremonies. Lennart Petersson made the presentations for the bowlers.

Taking first place for the season, the Flatbreads took the winning trophy. They also took first place in the first half. Individual trophies were presented to each member of the team. Captained by Charlie Rautio, the other members were Ross Rautio, Stella and Al Pearson and Knut Engstrom.

The Stockholms were second place team, after breaking a three-week tie with the Rye-Kings. Eric Pierre was captain with Hansene Pierre, Emil and Mildred Weise and Magnus Pearson.

Men's high average went to Ray Nyroos with 203 and the Ladies' to Dot Ekman with 204; men's triple to Carl Weiss with 756 and ladies' triple to Dot Ekman with 792. As Dot Ekman received the trophy for high average, the award went to Stella Pearson with a score of 680. Carl Weiss had the high single score at 328 but having received the high triple trophy this prize went to Eric Pierre with 323. D. Ekman held high single with 312 for the ladies but again, having won the high average the trophy was given to Hansene Pierre with 266. A small consolation prize for lowest game was proudly received by Mildred Weiss.

Handsome memo books were presented to the two subs for playing the most games. They were Margaret Eliasson and Alma Samuelson with 33 games each. Honorable mention for perfect attendance was made to Charlie Rautio, Eric Pierre, Hansene Pierre and Dot Ekman.

Winnie Pearson, secretary of the bowling league was congratulated on her work during the season and received a set of bowling glasses as a token of appreciation and a lovely corsage which was pinned on by Emma Kragg.

The league took part in two tournaments and one team in a city championship bowl. Four teams took part in the District 18 tournament in Medicine Hat. The Swedes, while taking no honors as winners in their own league, were more successful outside, coming 7th in

the Gold Team tournament and within 9 points of winning in Medicine Hat.

Peter Johnson, being a late comer in the league, didn't qualify for a trophy took a high average of 207. He threatens to hit the top next season.

All in all the bowlers had a very successful season. They hope to expand to eight teams this fall and anyone interested in joining should contact a member of the new executive, ie. Pres. Roy Ekman or treasurer Dot Ekman, Phone 466-1086, or Secretary Winnie Pearson, 455-5608.

Bert Watson made the presentations for the curlers. The Don Johnson rink came first and received the grand prize. Also individual trophies were given to all players of winning rinks. Members on the Don Johnson rink were Erling Winquist, Bud Smith and Eric Pierre.

Second prize went to the Carl Hartson rink, although he had the misfortune of receiving an injury recently and Milton Fawcett skipped for the remainder of the season, with Larry Comin, Bud Holmgren and Marty McRae. "Mink" lined "mugs" were awarded as consolation prizes to the Irv. Kurz rink.

Evelyn Johnson, secretary for the curling club, received a vote of thanks for her work during the past season. The new executive will be Milton Fawcett, President, and Elsie Comin, Secretary.

The Vasa Curlers enjoyed a good season of sport. Besides their regular games they played host to a bonspiel on Calmar ice, and took part in the District 18 'spiel held in Calmar.

Dancing followed to good music and everyone reported having a good time.

Scandinavian Centre

2nd Anniversary Banquet and Dance

Saturday, June 18th, 1966

\$5.00 per person

Refreshments

Entertainment

Dinner: 7:30 p.m. — Dancing 9:00 to 12:00 p.m.

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DANIA

SCT. HANS FEST WITH DANCE

Thursday, June 23rd, 1966 at 9:00 p.m.
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Members \$1.00 Non-Members \$1.50
EVERYBODY WELCOME

FINNISH SOCIETY will hold their

MIDSUMMER PICNIC
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SATURDAY, JUNE 25th, 1966

Klondike Party and Dance

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The June Schedule of Broadcasts . . .

Sunday, June 5th and 19th

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Sunday, June 12th, 7:30 p.m. Danish Service, Pastor Staal Nielsen
Sunday, June 19th, 11:00 a.m. English Service, Pastor R. Marken
Sunday, June 26th To Be Announced

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